

Fort Couture at Fort Hunter – 2025 Collection

Contact Information:

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Pattie Lynah | Fort Couture Committee Chair - patola46@aol.com



Thank you for your interest in Fort Couture! We look forward to having your creation as part of the 2025 Collection!

Step 1 - Please email nlgates@dauphincounty.gov or patola46@aol.com or call 717-599-5188, ext. 2113 to reserve your dress form and spot! Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Space is limited.

Step 2 – Review the guidelines below and begin planning your creation. Have fun and be creative!

Step 3 – Plan time in your schedule for pick up and drop offs as noted in the details below.

Program Details

Ground rules for creations:

- The dresses can be made of whatever material you choose. Dresses should reflect the holiday season and include a greens or floral component.
- It should be an original design each year.
- Fresh greens and natural materials are encouraged.
- We strongly discourage food items as part of your creation as they can draw critters looking for a quick bite. Dresses will be displayed in an unheated Stable.
- Dresses must have secular themes, no vulgarity, political or overtly religious content.
- Consider the weight of your creation while deciding on your plan. Dress forms are not able to support extensive weight.
- Electricity is available if strings of lights are used. LED lights are preferred as they stay cooler when on for a long time.
- Please do not use valuable items on dresses. Fort Hunter will not be responsible for the loss of or theft of items.
- Fort Hunter will determine the placement of all exhibit pieces.

Dress form pick up: Weekdays from October 27 – November 24, 2025 between 9 AM – 3 PM.

You can also use your own dress form, just let me know that you won't need to pick up one of our ours.

Completed Creation Drop Off: Weekdays from November 24 – December 3 between 9 AM – 3 PM. The office is closed on November 27th.

- **A registration slip will need to be returned with your completed creation.** This information is important so that we can provide a sign for your creation and to make sure we have everyone's name correct, etc.
- Once your creation is complete, please let me know when you plan to drop it off. If you're unable to drop off during these days/hours, we can discuss special arrangements.

- If you are using natural greens, please plan to begin your creation at the later part of this schedule. Real greens start dropping needles, etc. and are harder to keep looking good throughout the season.
- It can be helpful to wrap your creation in a sheet to keep things in place during transport

Celebrate the Opening:

- Save the date of **Friday, December 5** in the evening. We are planning a “preview” night for the creators and their families. More details will be provided closer to the date. Dresses will be on public display **Saturdays & Sundays from 12:30 – 4:30 PM from December 6 – December, 21, 2025.**

Tear-down | Pick up: December 21 at 4:30 PM or December 22 or 23 from 9 AM – 3 PM.

- You can take your creation home to display over the holiday season. If so, please return the undecorated dress form to us by **January 9, 2025**. Office hours vary over the holidays so please let me know your preferred date/time so I can confirm that someone will be here to assist you.

Thank you for your time and creativity on these Fort Couture projects. We couldn't do it without YOU!

Nancy Gates

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